

HOUSE RESOLUTION 165

By Camper

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Reverend Dr. Terri Lynn Strong on being named one of the 12 Most Outstanding Women in Ministry.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Reverend Dr. Terri Lynn Strong, who has been named one of the 12 Most Outstanding Women in Ministry by the Memphis Inter-Denominational (MID) Fellowship, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the MID Fellowship recognizes the importance of honoring those women who have demonstrated excellence in their respective fields; the women recognized are judged on the basis of being a Woman of Faith, a Woman of Prayer, a Woman of Good Works, a Woman of Dedication, and a Woman of Leadership with the Courage of Esther; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Terri Strong is the Senior Pastor of Mt. Sinai AME Church Arlington, and she has been an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church since 2011; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong Memphian and member of Ward Chapel AME Church, Dr. Terri Strong is the youngest of ten children and the mother of two sons, Andre' Jamaal Strong and Cameron Earl Hayward; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Messick High School in Memphis in 1977, Dr. Strong received an associate degree from Shelby State Community College in 1987, a bachelor's degree in business administration from Memphis State University in 1989, a master of divinity

degree from Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, Ohio, in 2012, and a doctor of ministry degree from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia, in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Terri Strong has estimably served as president of the West Tennessee Women in Ministry for the African Methodist Episcopal Church since 2014, and she is the newly elected vice president of the Memphis and Vicinity Ministerial Alliance for the African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, in the secular arena, Dr. Strong has twenty-five years of experience in corrections, training, investigation, and public service as an employee of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office from 1991 to 2016, including service as a detective in the Internal Affairs Office and as an instructor in the training academy; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Terri Strong is the founder of the nonprofit organization Basic Intervention for New Direction, which is a social educational program for youth and parents, and she is an active member of Church Women United Organization, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and Jack Mound Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, a past national board member of Neighborhoods, USA, she has also served her faith community as the social action committee chairperson for the Memphis and Vicinity Ministerial Alliance of the West Tennessee African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Strong is widely recognized for her abilities and passion for serving others as a preacher, teacher, motivational speaker, author, poet, youth advocate, mentor, social activist, and entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that Reverend Dr. Terri Strong be recognized at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we congratulate

Reverend Dr. Terri Lynn Strong on being honored by the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., as one of the 12 Most Outstanding Women in Ministry of 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.